



PRESS RELEASE

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PHOENIX MAN CHARGED WITH TAX EVASION

PHOENIX, ARIZONA -- The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona announced today that a federal grand jury at Phoenix, Arizona, returned a two count indictment today against Guvinder Singh Takhar, 37, of Phoenix, Arizona.

The indictment alleges that Takhar willfully attempted to evade a large part of the federal income taxes he owed for 1995 and 1996 by filing false and fraudulent tax returns. It alleges that he reported an income of \$21,062 on his 1995 return, but he knew that his income was actually over \$80,000 and more taxes were due than he paid. It also alleges that he reported an income of \$59,577 on his 1996 return, but he knew that his income was actually over \$100,000 and more taxes were due than he paid.

The federal indictment charges Takhar with violating Title 26 of the United States Code, Section 7201.

A conviction for tax evasion carries a maximum penalty of five years, a \$250,000 fine or both.

An indictment is simply the method by which a person is charged with criminal activity and raises no inference of guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until competent evidence is presented to a jury that establishes guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

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The investigation preceding the indictment was conducted by special agents of the Phoenix field office of the Criminal Investigation Division of the Internal Revenue Service.

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